United Nations A/57/596

General Assembly

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English
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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 66
General and complete disarmament

Letter dated 24 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, as Felipe Pérez Roque, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, stated in the General Assembly on 14 September during the general debate, the Government of Cuba has deposited its instrument of ratification of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) which it signed on 5 December 1995.

The Government of Cuba also deposited the instrument of ratification of all the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which were adopted in resolutions 209 (VII) and 268 (XII) of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The instruments of ratification of the Treaty and of all its amendments were delivered to the Government of the United Mexican States for deposit on Wednesday, 23 October 2002 in Mexico City. On 8 November 2002, there will be an official ceremony in Mexico City for the registering of the deposit.

With the deposit of the instruments of ratification by Cuba, the Treaty of Tlatelolco thus enters fully into force for all States of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Cuba reiterates once more its firm position in favour of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth and its intention of cooperating fully with the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

I should be grateful if you could have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 66.

(*Signed*) Bruno **Rodriguez Parrilla**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-68611 (E) 121102 121102

United Nations A/57/597

General Assembly

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11 November 2002
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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 66
General and complete disarmament

Letter dated 7 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Cuba deposited the instruments of accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) on 4 November 2002, at a ceremony held in Moscow at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, whose Government is one of the designated depositaries of the above-mentioned Treaty.

The decision to become a State party to NPT sends a clear signal of the political will of the Government of Cuba and its commitment to the promotion and consolidation of multilateralism, as the only way of achieving an effective disarmament process guaranteeing world peace.

In taking this step, Cuba also reaffirmed its desire to see at last the complete elimination, under strict international monitoring, of all nuclear weapons.

At the same time, Cuba's accession to NPT should not be interpreted as a change in its well-known position regarding the inadequacies of that Treaty and its discriminatory character, or as a lessening of Cuba's concern at the nuclear Powers' lack of compliance with their obligations under NPT.

As a State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Cuba intends to become actively involved in preparations for the next NPT Review Conference and to work together with other States that, like Cuba, desire the total elimination, under strict international monitoring, of all nuclear weapons.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 66.

(*Signed*) Bruno **Rodríguez Parrilla**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-68623 (E) 121102 121102

United Nations A/57/598

General Assembly

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12 November 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 31, 32, 79, 84 (c), 87, 88 and 89

Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion

Information and communication technologies for development

Questions relating to information

Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development

Environment and sustainable development

Operational activities for development

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Letter dated 5 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Dubai Declaration for the Promotion of Science and Technology in the South (see annex), adopted by the South-South High-level Conference on Science and Technology of the Group of 77, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 27 to 30 October 2002.

On behalf of the Group of 77, I would greatly appreciate it if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 31, 32, 79, 84 (c), 87, 88 and 89.

(*Signed*) Milos **Alcalay**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of 77

02-69111 (E) 181102

Annex to the letter dated 5 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Dubai Declaration for the Promotion of Science and Technology in the South

We, the Participants at the Group of 77 South-South High-Level Conference on Science and Technology,

Pursuant to the decision of the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit of the Group of 77, held in Havana, Cuba, from 10-14 April 2000,

Deeply concerned that the prevailing and growing knowledge gap between the North and the South contributes to the marginalization of many developing countries and the significant segment of humankind already afflicted by poverty,

Aware that the disparity between the developed and developing countries, in their respective capacities and implementation, has emerged as a major problem,

Affirm and seek to strengthen the role of the United Nations in mainstreaming the positive benefits of science and technology for the developing countries,

Committed to work towards the promotion of the development of science and technology by increasing the allocation of resources to that end, developing appropriate institutional frameworks and promoting technology through advanced and quality education,

Having assembled at a High-level Conference on Science and Technology of the Group of 77 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 27-30 October 2002, to formulate a new vision and a global strategy for the promotion of science and technology in the South,

Hereby, adopt the Dubai Declaration as a practical platform for the promotion of science and technology among the Member States of the Group of 77:

1. We reaffirm our commitment to the implementation of the specific actions at the national and international levels contained in the Havana Programme of Action. These include, *inter alia*, the promotion and development of knowledge and technology in the South; to encourage the institutions of the South to launch further initiatives to promote knowledge and technology in developing countries; to harness the potential of human resources, including expatriates, from the South for the benefit of developing countries; to address the challenges associated with brain drain; to create an enduring international environment to ensure the South's access to knowledge and technology; and to promote the central role of the United Nations in removing different barriers faced by the South in the acquisition of knowledge and technology;

2. We emphasize with deep concern the disparities between the developed and developing world in their capacity to produce scientific and technological knowledge in support of social and economic development. In this context, we welcome the initiative of the United Arab Emirates in UNESCO to launch a South–South Solidarity Programme in the Field of Education, aimed at assisting developing countries to use and benefit from the South's potential in the field of education; reduce illiteracy; and improve education for all. We call upon Member States of the Group of 77 , other countries and agencies to formulate a strategy to ensure that sufficient resources are available in developing countries for science education at secondary and tertiary levels;

3. We express our profound concern at the persistence and prevalence of the scourge of poverty on a global scale and also at the inadequate, intangible results of existing poverty alleviation and eradication strategies. Cognizant of the pernicious impact of poverty on scientific and technological progress and social and economic development of nations, particularly in developing societies, we call for the abolition of poverty as a strategic objective and priority of governments and scientific communities;

4. We consider that more attention and new and additional resources should be devoted by the international community to developing countries' concerns, and uses of scientific knowledge appropriate to, and to the direct benefit of, the developing world. The Conference calls for greater recognition of the special needs of developing countries in science and technology. The Conference advocates greater understanding, consideration and cooperation among Member States and other countries for the different needs and priorities of developing countries in respect of new technologies;

5. We call for further attention and resources to be devoted to traditional knowledge, its promotion, enrichment, advancement and mechanisms for its protection, and the sharing of benefits arising from its use;

6. We recognize the significant obstacles to science and technology in developing countries, including, *inter alia*, lack or inadequacy of resources, infrastructure and institutions, gender imbalance in Science and Technology, lack of trained personnel, prohibitive costs of acquiring knowledge and technology, and barriers to the transfer of knowledge, personnel and technologies from developed to developing countries. The Conference calls for tangible steps to address these obstacles and facilitate the transfer of resources to enhance domestic capacity building in developing economies;

7. Recalling paragraphs 42, 43 and 44 of the Declaration adopted by the Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 19 September 2002, we firmly reject the imposition of laws and regulations with extraterritorial impact and all other forms of coercive economic measures, including unilateral sanctions against developing countries that affect scientific and technological programmes, for peaceful purposes, of the Member States of the Group of 77;

8. We acknowledge the significant role that the institutional members of the Trieste-based system have played in the promotion of science and technology capacity building in the developing world and in the advancement of South-South cooperation through the fostering of scientific networks. In this context, we call upon the Member States of the Group of 77 to consider supporting such programmes in the future;

9. We emphasize the importance and support the role of UNCTAD and the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development in promoting science and technology transfer and development in developing countries;

10. We acknowledge that access to clean water and proper sanitation is central to health and quality of life and is a prime responsibility of the public sector. Science and technology can play a key role in access, management and sustainable use of water. All necessary actions, using science-based and effective technological solutions, should be taken to support national, regional and international programmes to provide clean water and improved sanitation to communities and households including:

    a) Improvements in water treatment, reticulation, use and re-use, taking into account, where applicable, traditional methods and knowledge;

    b) Integrated water resource management approaches for sustainable use, including the protection of groundwater resources, including minimising impacts of fertilizer use, industrial pollution;

    c) Novel methods of harvesting, storing and recycling, including innovation to reduce costs of desalination;

    d) Effective sanitation processes; and

    e) Effective use of primary, secondary and tertiary education on water and sanitation.

11. We recognize the importance and tremendous potential that biotechnology and related industries offer for poverty eradication, technological progress, industrial development and health improvement. We call on Member States of the Group of 77 to invest resources into the development of the vast genetic resources in their countries. Traditional and indigenous use of these resources should also be documented and research activities carried out to upgrade them. Members are called upon to note and respond to public and ethical concerns in the application of some aspects of biotechnology, and therefore, public awareness, regulations and legislation on bio-safety are of great importance;

12. We call for the identification, documentation and networking of institutions and individuals who have made significant progress in the field of biotechnology, particularly in medical, agricultural, forestry, animal, fisheries, marine and environmental biotechnology. Funding institutions such as

development banks should support these institutions with funds for research, collaborative programs and networking. International institutions such as FAO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO and others are called upon to increase their support to biotechnology programs in the Member States of the Group of 77;

13. We recognize that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has the potential to transform economic and social conditions and accelerate the alleviation of poverty and that concerted efforts are necessary to narrow the digital divide, within and between nations, actions at all levels are required to:

    a) Establish suitable standards and frameworks to support developing countries;

    b) Accelerate the provision of core ICT infrastructure, increased access and reduced costs nationally and regionally;

    c) Increase connectivity and physical access to ICT infrastructure, including the development and use of low cost hardware devices and software, especially open source;

    d) Accelerate and intensify the provision of content and services for the public good, including e-government, health, education, agriculture, science and technology, culture and the arts;

    e) Strengthen and enlarge programmes in developing countries for human resources, skills and knowledge in ICT;

    f) Work towards a harmonized G-77 position for and active engagement in the World Summit on Information Society; which will be held in two phases: in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunis in 2005;

    g) International institutions such as ITU, UNDP, and others are called upon to increase their support to ICT programs in the Member States of the Group of 77.

14. We reaffirm our full and unwavering support and commitment to scientific and technological cooperation among developing countries under the Havana Programme of Action and reiterate our commitment to the spirit of South-South cooperation among the Member States of the Group of 77. Some countries in the South have developed significant expertise in biotechnology, information technology, and water and sanitation technologies. We therefore call for the exchange of scientific experiences and of technologies with a view to intensifying cooperation and delivering real benefits among developing countries, using new and existing mechanisms to the full;

15. We call upon the Member States of the Group of 77 members of WTO to work towards the recognition that the intellectual property system should respond to the development needs of the developing countries and become more supportive of their science and technological objectives;

16. We also call for the establishment of a South-South network, linking research & development (R&D) institutions and other centers of excellence to enhance the South's efforts in setting up strategic programmes of R&D, particularly for the development of vaccines, drugs and diagnostics for the prevention and cure of major communicable diseases in the South, such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS;

17. We invite the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, in collaboration with the Chairmen of the Chapters of the Group of 77, as required, to initiate or undertake consultations for the implementation of the following decisions of the South Summit, and to report on the results of his consultations to the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 in September 2003:

    a) Establishment of a Trust Fund for the promotion of knowledge and technology in the South. To this end, governments, the private sector, foundations and other organizations are encouraged to provide seed money for the Fund;

    b) Establishment of a consortium of knowledge and technology, comprising representatives from the governments, the private sector and other relevant organizations, which should meet on a regular basis in order to promote joint ventures in the South in the field of science and technology; and

    c) Establishment of the Award of the Group of 77 for Science and Technology, in order to recognize and honor individual scientists from developing countries who have made outstanding scientific contributions of the highest international quality.

18. We call for an effective implementation of this Declaration and invite the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York and the concerned Chapters to put in place the necessary practical modalities for the follow-up of the Dubai Conference outcome in close coordination with the relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, and through:

    a) Setting up of three virtual working groups on ICT, biotechnology and clean water, with a view to implementing the provisions of the Declaration; and

    b) Development of an Internet-based communication mechanism among G-77 resource persons and institutions to reduce costs and to enhance the work of the Group of 77.

19. We call for high-level meetings of the Group of 77 on science and technology, modeled on the Dubai Conference, to be held on a regular basis in order to give consideration to emerging issues and to receive reports of the working groups referred to above.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 100
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Letter dated 11 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw to your attention the text of the declaration, known as the "Algiers Declaration", adopted by the African regional Ministerial Conference on the Promotion of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime sponsored by the United Nations and held in Algiers on 29 and 30 October 2002.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter, together with the said declaration, circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 100.

(*Signed*) Abdullah **Baali**
Ambassador

02-69014 (E) 151102 151102

Annex to the letter dated 11 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Algiers Declaration on the Promotion of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols

We, Ministers and other representatives of African countries participating in the regional Ministerial Conference on the Promotion of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols, held in Algiers on 29 and 30 October 2002,

Concerned about the negative impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic development, stability and security of our countries,

Noting that the global nature of transnational organized crime requires an effective global response,

Convinced of the urgent need to work together to combat organized crime in all its forms and manifestations, and to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance to that end,

Noting with deep concern the growing links between transnational organized crime and terrorism,

Stressing the importance of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in the provision of technical assistance to States, upon request, in combating transnational organized crime,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolutions 55/25 of 15 November 2000 and 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which the Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the three protocols thereto, which constitute effective tools for international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime,

1. Express our deepest appreciation to His Excellency Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, and to the Government and people of Algeria for hosting the Regional Ministerial Conference in Algiers, organized by the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention;

2. Also express appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for its generous voluntary contribution, which made the Conference possible;

3. Commend those countries of the African region which have signed the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols;

4. Express our satisfaction that some countries which have signed the Convention and its protocols are at an advanced stage in the process of ratification of those instruments;

5. Recommend that those countries that have not yet signed the protocols consider doing so as soon as possible;

6. Commend those countries of the region that have ratified the Convention and its protocols and call upon those countries that have not done so to undertake all necessary efforts and complete all requirements, in accordance with the domestic law, in order to ensure the ratification of those instruments;

7. Reaffirm the commitment to enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation and to take further initiatives in this direction, with the assistance of and in coordination with the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

8. Recognize the importance of reviewing, improving and harmonizing national legislation against transnational organized crime, in order to bring it into line with the Convention and its protocols;

9. Urge donor countries and relevant international and regional organizations to enhance technical, financial and material assistance to support the efforts of countries of the region in ratifying and implementing the Convention and its protocols, through substantial regular voluntary contributions to the special account established under the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in accordance with article 30 of the Convention;

10. Call upon the Centre for International Crime Prevention, within the framework of the implementation of the Convention and its protocols, to support the efforts of the African States in the fight against transnational organized crime by holding regional and subregional high-level meetings, seminars and colloquiums to adapt national legislation to the Convention with a view to achieving the objectives of its implementation;

11. Also call upon the African States to integrate the fight against transnational organized rime in the implementation of the NEPAD Global Strategy;

12. Undertake to review progress in the signature, ratification and early implementation of these instruments regularly and provide relevant information to the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

13. Take note of the progress made in the negotiations on the new United Nations Convention against corruption and invite donor countries to continue to support the participation of the countries of the region in this process;

14. Invite the Chairperson of the Conference to bring this Declaration to the attention of the African Union and to that of the United Nations General Assembly at its present session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 42
Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

Letter dated 11 November 2002 from the Chairmen of the Second and Third Committees addressed to the President of the General Assembly

We have the honour of writing to inform you that the Second and Third Committees held a joint meeting to hear a briefing on HIV/AIDS by Dr. Peter Piot, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), on 25 October 2002.

In this connection, the Second and Third Committees would be grateful if you would bring to the attention of the General Assembly the summary of the proceedings of the above-mentioned briefing and circulate it as a document of the General Assembly (see annex).

(*Signed*) Marco Antonio **Suazo**
Chairman
Second Committee

(*Signed*) Christian **Wenaweser**
Chairman
Third Committee

02-69532 (E) 151102

Annex

Summary of proceedings of the joint meeting of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, held on 25 October 2002

A briefing by Dr. Peter Piot, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), was jointly convened by the chairmen of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly in preparation for the consideration of General Assembly agenda item 42, which would take place on 8 November 2002 in plenary session. At that briefing, participants included government representatives of the two Committees, as well as non-governmental organizations with representative status on the Programme Coordination Board of UNAIDS.

Following opening remarks underscoring the macroeconomic impact of the epidemic traditionally viewed as simply a social and health concern, Dr. Piot updated delegations on the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, the status of the HIV/AIDS epidemic worldwide and his views on the way forward in the global response to the epidemic. In so doing, the following was highlighted:

(a) The Declaration of Commitment is the overarching implementation framework for the fight against HIV/AIDS and, as such, represents a key tool for advocacy and assessment of progress;

(b) The responses by Member States to the UNAIDS-administered questionnaire indicate achievements in the key areas of leadership, partnership and resource mobilization. In this regard, national strategies have increasingly been adopted; regional cooperation and commitment promoted; civil society and the business community are increasingly cooperating with national authorities; and there has been a doubling of funds available to the fight against AIDS in low and middle-income countries, although it was concluded that $10.5 billion is still needed annually;

(c) Remaining challenges include the lack of comprehensiveness of most national programmes, the presence of stigma and discrimination and insufficient resources;

(d) In the future, greater focus should be on prevention programmes targeting young people, action to address stigma and discrimination, improved access to care and treatment, the development of safe and effective preventive measures, such as microbicides and new, additional and sustained resources.

In terms of the recently completed five-year external evaluation of UNAIDS, which commended the Programme for its advocacy, work on policy and best practice and partnership-building, it was pointed out that the global response to the AIDS epidemic has shifted from advocacy to implementation. To this end, greater attention would be placed on meeting new global needs and boosting effectiveness at the country level.

In their comments, participants mentioned the key role of civil society in the global fight; the importance of prevention with care and treatment remaining the focus of the fight; the role of UNAIDS in follow-up to the United Nations

Millennium Declaration; the development of guidelines on HIV/AIDS and human rights; the relationship between UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; improving access to treatment and care; establishing programmes to protect orphans; promoting microbicide research; formulating indicators to assess the social and economic impact of the disease; UNAIDS support for traditional medicine; the vulnerability of women and their access to treatment; the continued stigma and marginalization from policy-making of persons living with HIV; and the need for a more thoughtful dialogue on reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS resulting from injecting drug use. The importance of a one-day plenary session of the General Assembly to review further progress was underscored.

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 36 and 160

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 12 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Palestinian terrorist campaign against the citizens of Israel crossed yet another threshold of depravity on Sunday when, in an act of unspeakable hatred and cruelty, forces loyal to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat infiltrated an Israeli Kibbutz and shot to death five civilians, including a mother and her two young sons, in cold blood.

The attack occurred shortly after midnight (local time) on Sunday evening at Kibbutz Metzer, a tranquil Israeli farming community located just a few kilometres from the edge of the West Bank that was renowned for its friendly relations with nearby Arab villages. That tranquillity was shattered when a Palestinian gunman infiltrated the Kibbutz, burst into the home of Revital Ohayon, age 34, and into the room where she was reading her two sons Matan and Noam, ages 4 and 5 respectively, a bedtime story. All three were shot and killed at close range. The children's father, hysterical with grief, arrived shortly after to find a room riddled with bullet holes and sheets and pillows stained with blood.

The terrorist also shot and killed Tirza Damari, age 42, who was walking along a path with her boyfriend, and Yitzhak Dori, age 44, the secretary of the Kibbutz. At Dori's funeral, Arabs and Jews joined together in accompanying him to his final resting place. In contrast to those who consider funerals the appropriate venue to celebrate terrorist attacks as heroic acts of "resistance", mourners for Dori spoke of their commitment to working for peace and coexistence and of their refusal to allow their dreams of peace to succumb to violence.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the terrorist arm of Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction, proudly claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement broadcast on *Al Manar Television* in Beirut, the satellite network of the terrorist organization Hizbullah. Meanwhile in Cairo, Osama Hamdan, a Hamas representative, praised the terrorist that carried out the attack, saying: "Hamas is not the only one that adopts

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armed struggle against the Israelis, but also an organization that is subordinate to the Palestinian Authority."

Israel holds the Palestinian leadership fully responsible for this latest attack that has brought the Palestinian terrorist campaign to new heights of brutality and savagery. Despite more than two years of violence and terrorism, and the repeated calls of the international community and the Security Council, the Palestinian Authority has failed to take any action that might prevent future terrorist attacks. It has failed to bring terrorists to justice, to prevent its territory from serving as a base for terrorist operations, and to end all acts of violence, terrorism and incitement, as is its obligation under international law, in particular the recently adopted Security Council resolution 1435 (2002).

On the contrary, the Palestinian leadership has presided over years of unrelenting incitement and demonization of Israel in the official Palestinian media, a Palestinian school curriculum which delegitimizes and denies the right of Jews and Israelis to exist and to live in peace and security, and the official celebration of terrorist and suicide bombers as heroes of the Palestinian people. Only within a ruthless terrorist network that has so totally dehumanized its enemies could the murder of innocent children in their mother's arms be considered a praiseworthy act.

In yet another shocking display of contempt and duplicity, the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority has called for the investigation of an attack for which his own forces are responsible. Clearly, this step is only the latest ploy of a terrorist practitioner intent on avoiding any international condemnation. If anything is to be investigated, it must be the systematic and deliberate policy of glorification of terrorism and suicide bombings, which are crimes against humanity, the indoctrination of young Palestinians into a culture of hatred and rejection of Jews and Israelis, and the continuing financial, moral and logistical support for terrorism originating from the highest levels of the Palestinian Authority, in defiance of signed commitments reached with Israel and the resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 1373 (2001).

Israel calls on the international community to condemn this horrible crime and to insist not only that the Palestinian Authority comply immediately with its obligations to halt acts of terrorism, but also that those responsible for organizing and inciting acts of terrorism are brought to justice, in accordance with resolution 1435 (2002).

Israel also calls on the Palestinian Authority to give substance to its condemnation by taking steps to reverse the culture of death and martyrdom it has deliberately and systematically fostered for more than a decade. When the lives of innocent children are viewed solely as instruments to be used and destroyed at will, even the best attempts at peace and reconciliation are destined to failure. The pervasive spirit of intolerance that celebrates the killing of women and children remains the foremost obstacle to the realization of the vision of peace and coexistence that the people of the region need and deserve.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 160 and 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/57/602

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 115

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 6th and 15th meetings, on 3 and 24 October 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.6 and 15).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the statistical report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system (A/57/265).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/57/L.6

4. At its 15th meeting, on 24 October, the Committee had before it a draft decision submitted by the Chairman entitled "Statistical report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system" (A/C.5/57/L.6).

02-69251 (E) 201102

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/57/L.6 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Statistical report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the statistical report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system.[1]

[1] A/57/265.

United Nations A/57/603

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 111 and 118

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Human resources management

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the items entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" and "Human resources management" and to allocate them to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the question of gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities under items 111 and 118 at its 15th meeting, on 24 October 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/57/SR.15).

3. For its consideration of the question, the Committee had before it the annual report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities, covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001 (A/56/839). A related report was made orally by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at the 45th meeting of the Fifth Committee during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on 7 March 2002 (see A/C.5/56/SR.45).[1]

[1] To be issued in *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/56/7/Add.1-11), annex.

02-69333 (E) 201102

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.5

4. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Pakistan, coordinator of the informal consultations on the question, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities" (A/C.5/57/L.5).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.5 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/234 of 26 June 1998, 53/11 of 26 October 1998 and 53/218 of 7 April 1999 and its decision 55/462 of 12 April 2001,

Having considered the annual report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities, covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001,[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Takes note of the annual report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001.[2]

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[2] A/56/839.

[3] To be issued in *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/56/7/Add.1-11), annex.

United Nations A/57/604

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 122

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 3rd, 4th and 15th meetings, on 30 September and on 1 and 24 October 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.3, 4 and 15).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (A/56/83);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of the administrative and management practices of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/56/620);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations of misconduct and mismanagement of the "boat project" at the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (A/56/689);

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(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations of refugee smuggling at the Nairobi Branch Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/56/733);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees private sector fund-raising activities (A/56/759);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs (A/56/817);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the post-implementation review of the Integrated Management Information System at United Nations Headquarters (A/56/879);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the update of oversight activities concerning the oil-for-food programme and the United Nations Compensation Commission (A/56/903);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (A/56/930);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the policies and procedures for recruiting staff for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (A/57/224).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.4

4. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Botswana, coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services" (A/C.5/57/L.4).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.4 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

A
Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the following reports:

(a) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention,[1]

(b) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations of misconduct and mismanagement of the "boat project" at the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention,[2]

(c) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of the administrative and management practices of the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[3]

(d) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations of refugee smuggling at the Nairobi Branch Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[4]

(e) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees private sector fund-raising activities,[5]

(f) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the update of oversight activities concerning the oil-for-food programme and the United Nations Compensation Commission,[6]

(g) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs,[7]

(h) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the post-implementation review of the Integrated Management Information System at United Nations Headquarters,[8]

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[1] See A/56/83.
[2] See A/56/689.
[3] See A/56/620.
[4] See A/56/733.
[5] See A/56/759.
[6] See A/56/903.
[7] See A/56/817.
[8] See A/56/879.

(i) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,[9]

(j) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the policies and procedures for recruiting staff for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations,[10]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services listed above;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, a further audit of the policies and procedures for recruiting staff of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration at its resumed fifty-eighth session.

B

Enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 11 of its resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and paragraph 15 of its resolution 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

Recalling also its resolution 55/259 of 14 June 2001,

Having considered the updated report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes,[11]

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General containing updated views on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes,[12] submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 55/259,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[11] and reaffirms the prerogatives of the funds and programmes to decide their own oversight mechanisms and their relationship with the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services that require its approval prior to their implementation.

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[9] See A/56/930.

[10] See A/57/224.

[11] A/55/826 and Corr.1.

[12] A/56/823.

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 17 (a)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions".

2. At its 19th meeting, on 1 November 2002, the Fifth Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/57/101) concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of five of its members on 31 December 2002.

3. The Fifth Committee also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/57/5) containing the names of six persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003.

4. At its 19th meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Homero Luis Hernandez (Dominican Republic), Thomas Mazet (Germany), Susan McLurg (United States of America) and Mounir Zahran (Egypt), as members of the Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003 (see para. 7).

5. The Fifth Committee then proceeded to elect, by secret ballot, one person from the two candidates proposed by the Eastern European States. The result of the voting was as follows:

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Number of ballots cast:	178
Invalid ballots:	2
Number of valid ballots:	176
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	176
Required majority:	89
Number of votes obtained:	
Vladimir V. Kuznetsov	106
David Aptsiauri	70

6. Having obtained the required majority, Vladimir V. Kuznetsov (Russian Federation) was recommended for appointment as a member of the Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003 (see para. 7).

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003:

Mr. Homero Luis Hernandez (Dominican Republic)
Mr. Vladimir V. Kuznetsov (Russian Federation)
Mr. Thomas Mazet (Germany)
Ms. Susan McLurg (United States of America)
Mr. Mounir Zahran (Egypt)

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 17 (b)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions".

2. At its 19th meeting, on 1 November 2002, the Fifth Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/57/102) concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Committee on Contributions that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of six of its members on 31 December 2002.

3. The Fifth Committee also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/57/6) containing the names of six persons nominated by the respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Alvaro Gurgel de Alencar (Brazil), Sergei I. Mareyev (Russian Federation), Bernard G. Meijerman (Netherlands), Hae-yun Park (Republic of Korea), Ugo Sessi (Italy) and Wu Gang (China) as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003 (see para. 5).

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Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

5. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003:

Mr. Alvaro Gurgel de Alencar (Brazil)

Mr. Sergei I. Mareyev (Russian Federation)

Mr. Bernard G. Meijerman (Netherlands)

Mr. Hae-yun Park (Republic of Korea)

Mr. Ugo Sessi (Italy)

Mr. Wu Gang (China)